

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A dispenser comprising:

a substantially closed housing having a pair of oppositely disposed substantially planar wall portions, substantially parallel and spaced apart by less than 6mm, and a dispensing area,

a supply of filamentary material within said housing, said supply being a reel, said reel including a lip projecting outwardly from a sidewall to define a bearing surface, and

at least one of said wall portions including a circular aperture therethrough, said circular aperture defining a complimentary bearing surface in said at least one wall portion,

said circular aperture receiving ~~a bearing portion of said~~ lip of said reel such that said reel is rotatably supported between said wall portions with ~~said bearing portions~~ lip of said reel projecting into said aperture so that said bearing surface of said lip abuts with the complementary bearing surface of said at least one wall portion.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 1 wherein said dispenser further comprises:

a moveable cover connected with said housing to be moveable between a first operating condition, and a second operating condition, wherein said cover when in said first operating condition encloses said dispensing area, and said cover when in said second operating condition exposes said dispensing area.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said housing includes a dispensing aperture, opening into said dispensing area and within said dispensing area, and

a cutter for severing said filamentary material exiting said housing through said aperture.

Claim 4 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 3, wherein said housing has a general shape defined by a boundary and said dispensing area is recessed into said housing to lie wholly within said boundary of said general shape.

Claim 5 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 4, wherein said cover in said first operating condition, lies substantially within said boundary.

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 5, wherein said cover is slidable between said first operating condition and said second operating condition in a sliding direction, and said sliding direction is substantially parallel to said wall portions.

Claim 7 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 6, wherein said cover is biased toward its said first operating condition.

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 5, wherein said cover is pivotally moveable between said first and said second operating conditions, and

the axis of said pivotal motion is substantially perpendicular to said wall portions.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 8, wherein said cover is hinged to a said wall portion, and said cover hinging about an axis parallel to said wall portion.

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 1, wherein said reel includes indicia on an outer surface, and said outer surface is visible through said circular aperture.

Claim 11 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, further comprising:

a rotation limiting means for preventing rotation of said reel in a wind-up direction,

said limiting means comprising a ratchet track having a series of teeth with ramped leading surfaces alternating with radial or undercut trailing surfaces on one of said reel or said wall, and at least one complimentary shaped ratchet tooth on the other of said reel or said wall,

one of said ratchet tooth, or said track teeth being movable,

said track teeth and said at least one ratchet tooth arranged in a meshing relationship and allowing rotation of said reel in an unwinding direction, by movement of one of said movable ratchet tooth or said movable track teeth, to ride over said other of said ratchet tooth or said track teeth.

Claim 12 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 11, further comprising an incomplete ring spacer member located between spaced side walls of said reel,

said ring having a diameter approximately the same as said reel, and said ring having a thickness approximately the same as said space between said side walls,

said ring including indexing means, and at least one of said walls including correspondingly shaped indexing means,

said indexing means engaging to prevent rotation of said ring, wherein said filamentary material passes through a gap in said incomplete ring.

Claim 13 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said wall portions include step portions adapted to lap one another and substantially seal around a perimeter of said wall portions.

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said wall portions are connected together by a living hinge.

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said at least one of said wall portions includes a further aperture adapted to receive an attachment means.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said cover includes one or more surface features to improve grip.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said housing includes at least one guide to direct said filamentary material from said supply to said dispensing area, and  
said guide including a plurality of barbs to impede travel of  
filamentary material through said guide in one direction.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said wall portions are fastened together by a reversible fastening means for example, cooperating snap lock fasteners.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 2, wherein said reel includes indicia on an outer surface, and said outer surface is visible through said circular aperture.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The dispenser as claimed in claim 1 wherein said wall portions are connected together by a living hinge.

Claims 21-33 (Cancelled)

Please add new claim 34 as follows:

Claim 34 (New): A dispenser comprising:

a substantially closed housing having a pair of oppositely disposed substantially planar wall portions, substantially parallel and spaced apart by less than 6mm, and a dispensing area,

a supply of filamentary material within said housing,

said supply being a reel, and

at least one of said wall portions including a circular aperture,

said circular aperture receiving a bearing portion of said reel such that said reel is rotatably supported between said wall portions with said bearing portions projecting into said aperture,

a movable cover connected with said housing to be moveable between a first operating condition, and a second operating condition, wherein said cover when in said first operating condition encloses said dispensing area,

and said cover when in said second operating condition exposes said dispensing area,

a rotation limiting means for preventing rotation of said reel in a wind-up direction, said limiting means including a ratchet track having a series of teeth with ramped leading surfaces alternating with radial or undercut trailing surfaces on one of said reel or said wall, and at least one complimentary shaped ratchet tooth on the other of said reel or said wall,

one of said ratchet tooth, or said track teeth being movable, said track teeth and said at least one ratchet tooth being arranged in a meshing relationship and allowing rotation of said reel in an unwinding direction, by movement of one of said movable ratchet tooth or said movable track teeth, to ride over said other of said ratchet tooth or said track teeth,

an incomplete ring spacer member located between spaced side walls of said reel, said ring having a diameter approximately the same as said reel, and said ring having a thickness approximately the same as said space between said side walls,

said ring including indexing means, and at least one of said walls including correspondingly shaped indexing means, said indexing means engaging to prevent rotation of said ring, wherein said filamentary material passes through a gap in said incomplete ring.